

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
AND JANICE HAHN

December 18, 2018

**Relates to Item 50**

**Seeking State and Federal Financial Support to Improve Sativa Water District Infrastructure**

On September 28, 2018, after years of improper fiscal and operational management at the Sativa Los Angeles Water District (Sativa), the California State Legislature authorized the California State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), pursuant to Assembly Bill 1577 (Chapter 859, Statutes of 2018), to order Sativa to accept administrative and managerial services, including full management and control, from an Interim Administrator selected by the Water Board.

On October 9, 2018, the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution approving the appointment of, and delegating authority to, the Director of Public Works to act on behalf of the County as Interim Administrator over Sativa. On October 31, 2018, the Water Board issued an Administrative Order which dissolved Sativa's Board of Directors and officially appointed the County as the Interim Administrator.

**MOTION**

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RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

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Since then, representatives from the Department of Public Works have conducted a rapid assessment of Sativa's infrastructure, taken over all financial accounts, met with community stakeholders, and updated Sativa's website to reflect the changes, as part of an initial effort to stabilize the water system and restore public confidence. Their rapid assessment revealed that additional infrastructure repairs will need to be made in short order to address Sativa's most critical water service issues before the County can help facilitate the transition to a permanent operator.

While the State granted \$200,000 in one-time funding to reimburse the County for the cost of providing interim administration of Sativa, resources have not been granted to address the immediate infrastructure concerns. As such, while Item 50 seeks authorization for the County to loan Sativa up to \$1.4 million to advance critical and timely improvements, Federal and State grant funds should also be sought to aid in this objective.

**WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the Chief Executive Officer, and the County of Los Angeles' (County) legislative advocates, to take all actions necessary, including sending a 5-signature letter to the County's State and Congressional delegations, to seek funding to restore and improve the infrastructure of the Sativa Los Angeles County Water District.

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